

## NOTES ON SOME SMALL MAMMAL ECTOPARASITES FROM NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, CANADA

(ANOPLURA, SIPHONAPTERA, AND ACARINA)

Recent investigations in the Far North concerning the epizootiology of parasites in Arctic nesting birds, under the direction of Dr. E. L. Schiller of Johns Hopkins University, School of Hygiene and Public Health, have provided the opportunity for collecting limited numbers of mammal ectoparasites as well. In view of the paucity of information available regarding the occurrence, host relationships, and distribution of small mammal ectoparasites from this area the following records may be of general interest to biologists.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Dr. Schiller for allowing us to study this material, and to thank Dr. Cluff E. Hopla, University of Oklahoma, and Dr. R. W. Strandtmann, Texas Technological College, for assisting us in identifying the fleas and mites.

The following ectoparasites were collected near Reindeer Station, approximately 68° N lat. and 134° 10' W long., Northwest Territories, Canada, during August 1963, from several red-backed voles (*Clethrionomys rutilus*), by Dr. Reza Behin.

### ACARINA

Laelaptidae. *Laelaps clethrionomydis* Lange, 1955 (5 ♀♀ and 1 ♂).

Dermanyssidae. *Hirstionyssus isabellinus* (Oudemans), 1913 (4 ♀♀).

Haemogamasidae. *Haemogamasus ambulans* (Thorell), 1872 (4 ♀♀, 2 nys., and 1 ♂).

*Haemogamasus alaskensis* Ewing, 1925 (5 ♀♀).

Listrophoridae. *Myocoptes* sp. (1 ♀ and 1 ny.).

### ANOPLURA

Hoplopleuridae. *Polyplax alaskensis* Ewing, 1927 (8 ♀♀ and 1 ♂).

### SIPHONAPTERA

Hystrichopsyllidae. *Catallagia dacenkoi fulleri* Holland, 1951 (7 ♀♀ and 2 ♂♂).

Ceratophyllidae. *Malaraeus penicilliger dissimilis* Jordan, 1929 (6 ♀♀ and 5 ♂♂).  
*Megabothris calcarifer gregsoni* Holland, 1950 (1 ♀).

One additional ceratophyllid, *Monopsyllus vison* (Baker), 1904 (2 ♀♀ and 1 ♂), was collected at Aklavik, Northwest Territories, Canada, June 22, 1959, from the red squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*), by Dr. E. L. Schiller.

The above record of *Laelaps clethrionomydis* is apparently the first from North America. This mite is very similar to *Laelaps alaskensis* Grant, 1947, and the two are separated in Tipton's key (1960. *The genus Laelaps*. Univ. Calif. Publ. Ent. 16(6): 233-356) on the basis of the length of the adanal and ventral setae. All of the specimens from the present collection have the postanal seta less than twice as long as the adanal setae and the ventral setae adjacent to the epigynial plate are approximately ½ as long as the epigynial setae.—CARL J. MITCHELL AND REZA BEHIN, *Department of Pathobiology, Johns Hopkins University, School of Hygiene and Public Health, Baltimore, Md.* This study supported in part by U.S. Public Health Service Grant A1-01915-05.